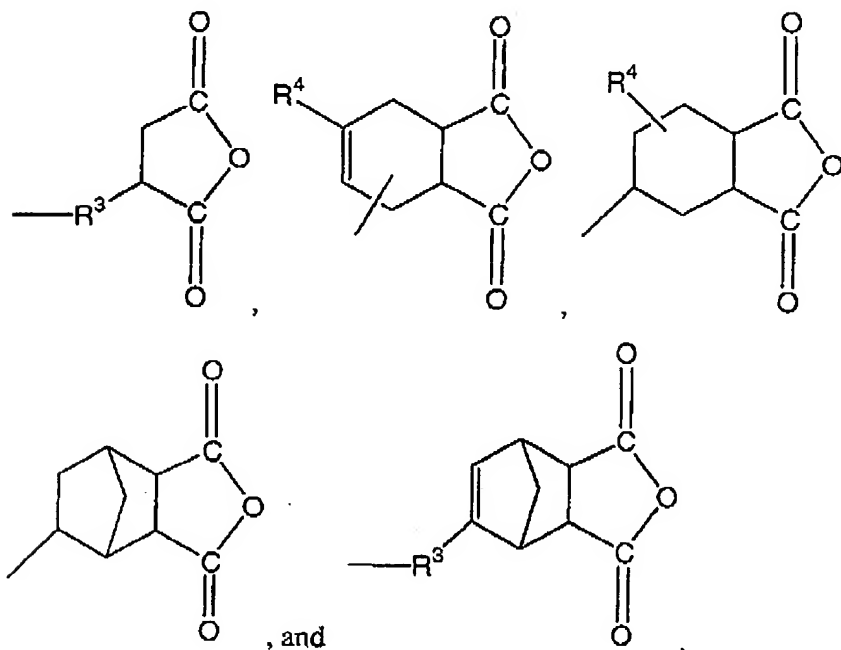


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IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-3. (Cancelled)

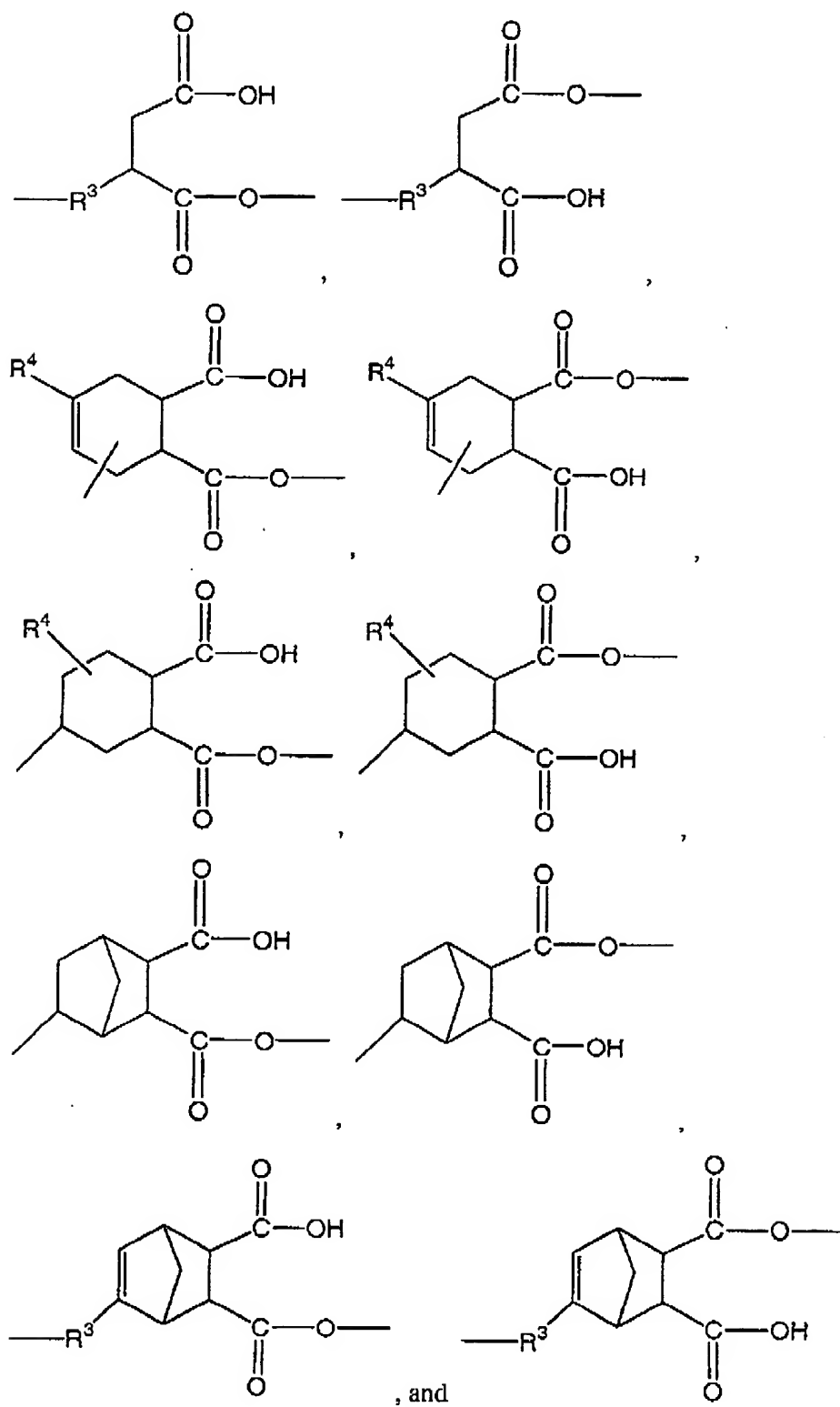
4. (Currently Amended) The organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim [[2]]17, wherein the residual carboxylic anhydride has a formula selected from the group of;



where R^3 is a divalent hydrocarbon group, and R^4 is a hydrogen atom or alkyl group.

5. (Currently Amended) The organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim [[1]]17, wherein the half ester group has a formula selected from the group of;

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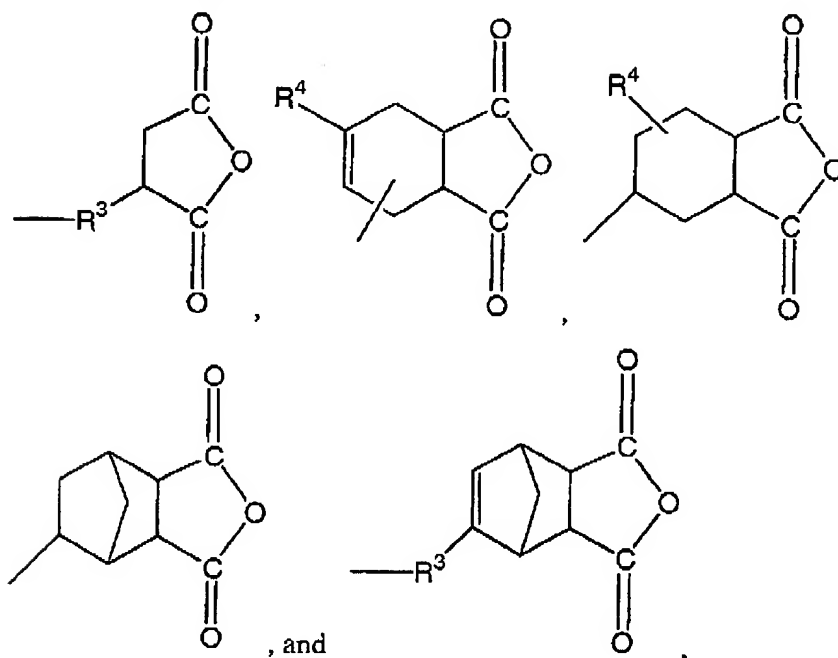
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where R^3 is a divalent hydrocarbon group, and R^4 is a hydrogen atom or alkyl group.

6. (Currently Amended) The organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim [[1]]17, wherein component (B) is selected from the group of ligneous polysaccharides, polysaccharides obtained from fruit flesh and rhizome, plant adhesive substances, legume-derived polysaccharides, seaweed-derived polysaccharides, microorganism-produced polysaccharides, polysaccharides of animal origin, or a derivative of these polysaccharides.

Claims 7-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The process for the preparation of organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim [[8]]18, wherein the residual carboxylic anhydride has a formula selected from the group of:



where R^3 is a divalent hydrocarbon group, and R^4 is a hydrogen atom or alkyl group.

11. (Currently Amended) The process for the preparation of organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim [[7]]18, wherein component (B) is selected

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from the group of ligneous polysaccharides, polysaccharides obtained from fruit flesh and rhizome, plant adhesive substances, legume-derived polysaccharides, seaweed-derived polysaccharides, microorganism-produced polysaccharides, polysaccharides of animal origin, or a derivative of these polysaccharides.

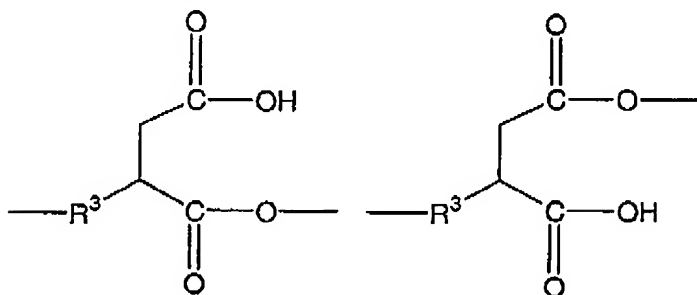
12. (Currently Amended) The process for the preparation of organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim 718, wherein component (C) is *N,N*-dimethylacetamide, *N,N*-dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, or hexamethylphosphortriamide.

13. (Currently Amended) The organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim [[1]]17, wherein components (A) and (B) are esterification reacted in the presence of (C) a non-protonic polar solvent.

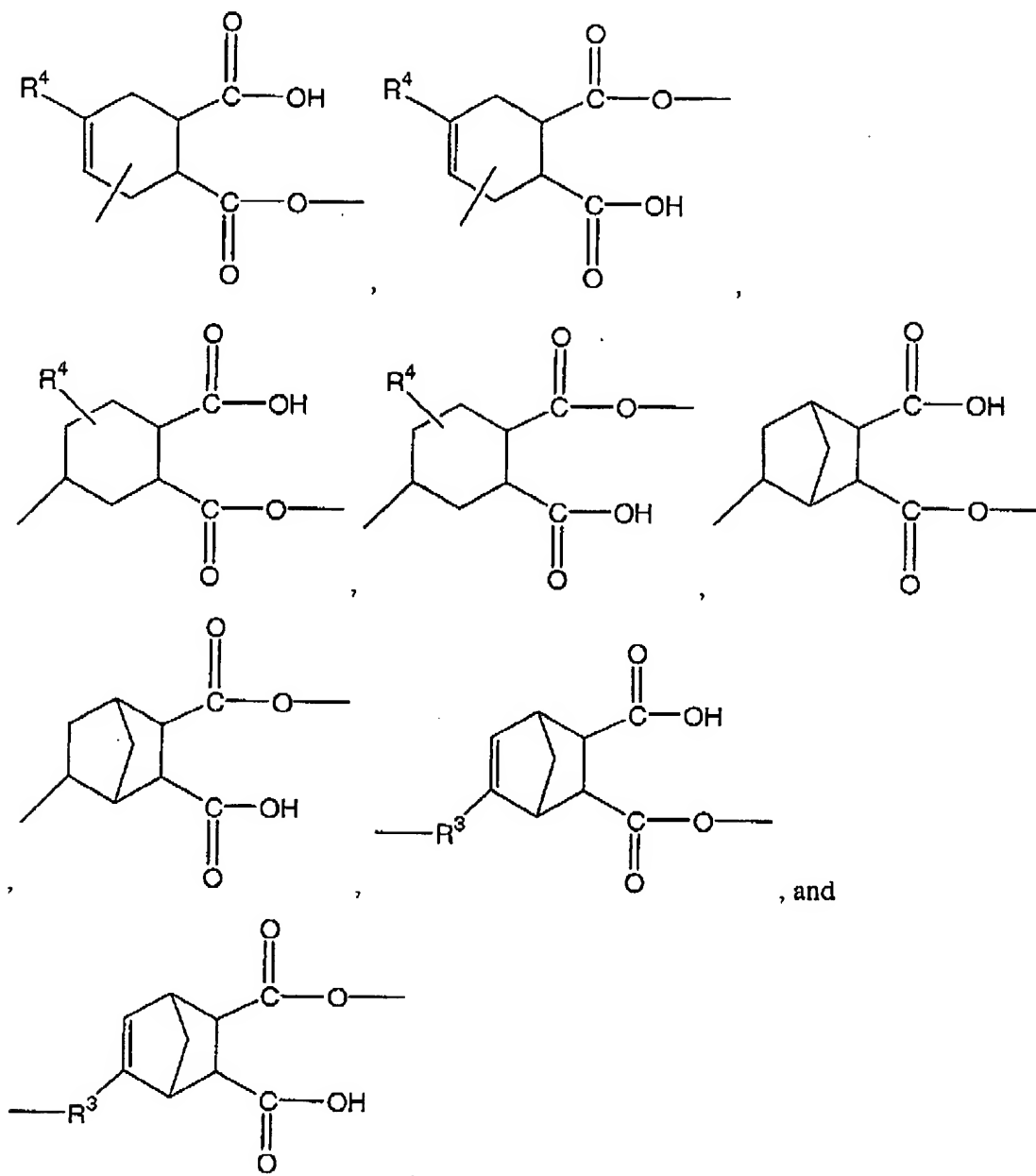
14. (Previously Presented) The organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim 13, wherein component (C) is *N,N*-dimethylacetamide, *N,N*-dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, or hexamethylphosphortriamide.

15. (Currently Amended) The process for the preparation of organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim [[7]]18, wherein the organopolysiloxane is bonded to the polysaccharide through half ester groups.

16. (Previously Presented) The process for the preparation of organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim 15, wherein the half ester group has a formula selected from the group of;



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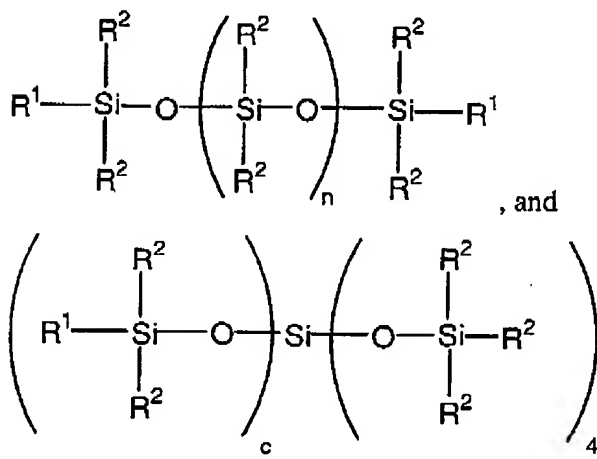
where R^3 is a divalent hydrocarbon group, and R^4 is a hydrogen atom or alkyl group.

Please add the following new claims.

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17. (New) An organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide prepared by a process comprising the step of esterification reacting:

(A) an organopolysiloxane having residual carboxylic anhydride groups and having the formula selected from the group of;



where R^1 is a monovalent organic group containing a residual carboxylic anhydride group,

R^2 is a hydrogen atom or monovalent hydrocarbon group, with the proviso that at least one R^2 is a monovalent hydrocarbon,

n is an integer greater than zero, and

c is an integer from 1 to 4; and

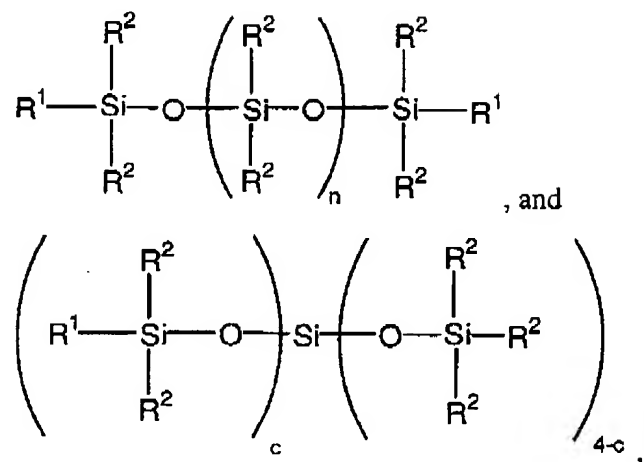
(B) a polysaccharide having hydroxyl groups,

wherein the organopolysiloxane is bonded to the polysaccharide through half ester groups.

18. (New) A process for the preparation of organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide, said process comprising the step of esterification reacting:

(A) an organopolysiloxane having residual carboxylic anhydride groups and having the formula selected from the group of;

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where R^1 is a monovalent organic group containing a residual carboxylic anhydride group,

R^2 is a hydrogen atom or monovalent hydrocarbon group, with the proviso that at least one R^2 is a monovalent hydrocarbon,

n is an integer greater than zero, and

c is an integer from 1 to 4; and

(B) a polysaccharide having hydroxyl groups,
in the presence of

(C) a non-protonic polar solvent.